

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/828,075

Examiner

Sin J. Lee

Applicant(s)

HORNE ET AL.

Art Unit

1752

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11-20-03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 2, 5-7, 9, 11-17, 22-26, 29-32.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 02172004.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Sean B. Mahoney (attorney for applicants) on February 17, 2004.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

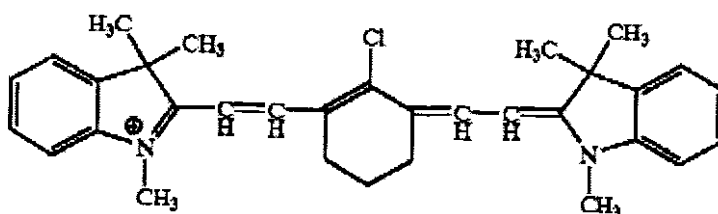
Cancel Claims 3, 4, 27, and 28.

Add new Claim 29 which reads as follows:

--- A precursor as claimed in claim 2, wherein the polymer comprising hydroxyl groups is a phenolic resin selected from the group consisting of a novolac resin, a resole resin, a novolac/resole resin mixture and polyhydroxystyrene, and a copolymer of hydroxystyrene. ---.

Add new Claim 30 which reads as follows:

--- A precursor as claimed in claim 2, wherein the colorant compound or moiety is selected from the group consisting of triarylmethane dyes, quaternized heterocyclic compounds, quinolinium compounds, benzothiazolium compounds, pyridinium compounds, polymethine dyes, cyanine dyes, Methylene blue, and a dye having the cation



Add new Claim 31 which reads as follows:

--- The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of reacting a polymer comprising hydroxyl groups with a colorant compound or moiety, to produce the polymeric substance having pendent colorant groups. ---.

Add new Claim 32 which reads as follows:

--- The method of claim 22, wherein the reversible insolubilizer groups are selected from the group consisting of -O-SO₂-tolyl, -O-dansyl, -O-SO₂-thienyl, -O-SO₂-naphthyl, -O-CO-Ph, and diazide functional groups. ---.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Previously, the Examiner stated that in Nguyen's Example 18 the aluminum substrate, which was treated with *polyvinyl phosphoric acid*, seemed to be anodized but not subjected to post-anodic treatment. However, in their argument, applicants showed that it is well known in the art that *polyvinyl phosphoric acid* is used in *post-anodic treatment*, usually in order to hydrophilize the anodized aluminum substrate. *Based on applicants' such argument*, the previously made rejections on claims 1-7, 9, 11, 12, 15-17, and 22-28 over Nguyen'425 are hereby withdrawn since present claim 1 requires the aluminum support not to be subjected to a post-anodic treatment.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sin J. Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-1333. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 am EST to 5:30 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark F. Huff, can be reached on 571-272-1385. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

S. J. L.
S. Lee
February 17, 2004

Mark F. Huff

MARK F. HUFF
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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